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## **2015 American Folk Festival Deemed a Success**

*Registrations for Color Bangor 2016 start Monday with "Kid" pricing for all early entrants*

BANGOR, MAINE – The 2015 American Folk Festival is in the books with all indications pointing to a successful year.

"Every year is different," said American Folk Festival Executive Director Heather McCarthy, "but we can always point to some specifics that make us realize what a great year it was. This year, the weather was amazing, we heard endless rave reviews both about – and from – the performers, and most importantly the people attending this festival had a great time. We're going to chalk this up as a victory."

This year's American Folk Festival featured sixteen performers across four stages performing traditions ranging from Blues and Bluegrass to Cowboy and Creole. Among the new acts to this year's festival was fan favorite Circus Arts performers, The Red Trouser Show.

"We try and look for the traditional favorite traditions to be presented at the festival, but we are also always on the lookout for that one newcomer that people don't expect. The one that keeps them talking," said McCarthy. "The Red Trouser Act performed Circus Arts not only in the Children's Village, but also on the streets in front of the Sea Dog and throughout festival grounds, and they attracted a captive audience every time."

McCarthy continued, "I sincerely want to thank everyone who came, kicked in, discovered a new favorite, or was reminded of an 'old' favorite, volunteered, supported, or just celebrated with us. This is always a special weekend."

Planning has already begun for the 2016 American Folk Festival, which will be the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the annual festival on the Bangor Waterfront. The dates are August 26, 27, and 28, 2016.

"We have a pretty exciting year in store for 2016," said American Folk Festival Board Chair Rick Fournier. "We want to celebrate the history of this festival, of course the present day, and also what's to come. The American Folk Festival is something that this community has supported for a decade and a half, and the festival has been the spark that triggered a revitalization of downtown. People who are proud to live here should be proud of this festival, and we look forward to celebrating the 15<sup>th</sup> year."

Also on the schedule for next year is Color Bangor 2016, set to take place on the Bangor Waterfront on Saturday, May 14. The third annual color fun run/walk supports the festival with 100% of proceeds benefiting the American Folk Festival. Registration is already open for Color Bangor 2016, with special lower-than-usual pricing for the earliest registrations.

"One thing we heard at Color Bangor from one participant is that they felt like a kid again," said McCarthy. "We want everyone to feel like a kid again. So, starting Monday (Aug. 31) – we are opening up registrations for everyone at the 'kid' rate of just \$25 per person. It's for a limited time, so if people are interested in the lowest possible rate for Color Bangor, now is the time to register and mark your calendars for May 14, 2016."

Those wishing to register at the kid rate of \$25 per person for Color Bangor 2016 may do so on the American Folk Festival's website, [www.americanfolkfestival.com](http://www.americanfolkfestival.com)

The American Folk Festival celebrates the many cultures that make up America, and gives those cultures a chance to shine through. The Festival is supported entirely by public donations that make it possible to continue to present the Festival free of charge.

For more information about the American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront or Color Bangor, please visit [www.americanfolkfestival.com](http://www.americanfolkfestival.com) or call 207-262-7763.

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